DECEMBER 2010

Mayor

James A. Dain

City Center Offices

100 North State Street Upper Level 785-5043

Community Development

100 North State Street Lower Level 785-7687

Public Works

946 West Center Street 796-7954

Justice Court

100 North State Street Upper Level 785-1971

Police

100 North State Street
Lower Level
Emergency - 911
Non-emergency Dispatch
229-7070
Police Department Offices
769-8600

Fire

Emergency - 911 Non-emergency Dispatch 229-7070 Other Fire Services 229-7327

> Aquatics Center 60 West 60 North 610-4160

City Website www.lindoncity.org

Mayor Dain, the Lindon City Council, and the Lindon City staff wish each of you a safe and joyful holiday season! Thanks for making Lindon a great place to live and work!

Santa and the Elves might not be the only ones sneaking around!

Christmas time has come this year, time for joy and time for cheer!... I think that's how Alvin sang it? Regardless of the song's words, the Holidays have descended upon us with a vengeance. We made it through the official Turkey Stuffing Day. We've had the regularly scheduled Black Friday fist fights over the last tub of play dough. We've had our first winter storm complete with icy roads and cold hands. In other words it's a normal holiday season.

Yet this year isn't normal. It seems that we're seeing more thefts and burglary than in the past few years. This is probably the sign of a tough economy and a greater than average number of folks out there stealing things to buy drugs. While people are hurrying about getting ready for the holidays, please remember that the bad guys out there know that you're busy too. This is their favorite time of year... for all the wrong reasons. They know that with the holiday chaos, you're an easier victim for them. Christmas parties are easy targets with lots of cars outside containing purses, cash, and newly purchased packages and the people are inside for hours, oblivious to what's going on outside. Many of us leave our homes empty in the evening to run errands, shop or attend parties. Homes that appear to be vacant for the evening are easy targets for someone who wants to break in. Leave lights, a TV or a radio on at home when you're gone. Thieves may pass you by, thinking that someone is in the house.

Remember to keep a watchful eye in your neighborhood as well. Something that you notice and call in may save your neighbors from becoming victims. Earlier this week a sharp eyed neighbor got a vehicle description on a burglary for us. Good police work by Lindon Officers and some great help from the Utah Highway Patrol used this information to have the burglars in jail within an hour! That's a happy holiday story in our business!

Remember to never leave valuables in your car. Take the packages home before the party or ask the host if there's a secure place you can put them and your purse (OK Guys,...European Carry-All) inside their home. Make sure that no one is watching as you use credit or debit cards and PIN numbers and keep track of your wallet and ID at all times. Don't forget your personal safety either. We are very fortunate to live in a very safe community. But things are changing and violent crime here in Utah County is becoming more of a reality. Most often, using common sense regarding where you go and what you do will keep you out of harm's way. Remember that in Utah, the weather can change in an instant.

We seem to have weathered "the Blizzard of the Century" pretty well, but not all storms fizzle out. Always remember that Mother Nature is bigger and badder than all of us combined. A pleasant family trip to see Christmas lights can suddenly turn into a hypothermia threat if you don't go prepared. Bad winter weather can mean traffic problems or even make walking a danger. Try to be careful in every way this holiday season.

Finally, please take the time to make this Holiday Season special, for you and for others. Remember the elderly, the alone and the shut-in. Take a moment to commit a random act of kindness. "Paying it forward" is always a great idea! And, in the dark of the night on Christmas Eve, while you gaze out over the freshly fallen snow, watching for the slightest hint of Santa's sleigh and listening for jingle bells...(we all do it!) remember the men and women of the Lindon City Police Department who are always out there watching over the community and know that we wish you all a very safe and happy holiday season!

Chief Cody Cullimore, Lindon City Police Department